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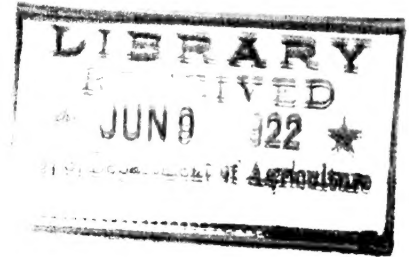
MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Number 97

May, 1922.

BEE-CULTURE INVESTIGATIONS

E. F. Phillips, Apiculturist in Charge



The bill providing for prohibition of importations of adult bees, as a safeguard against the Isle of Wight disease, was introduced in both Houses of Congress. The hearing before the House Committee on Agriculture was held May 4, and following this hearing the bill was reported out favorably by unanimous vote of the committee. The hearing before the Senate Committee has not been announced at the time of this writing. The bill has received almost unanimous approval from the beekeepers of the country, the only opposition which has arisen having come from persons who wish to import queens. It is believed that when the provisions of the bill are more clearly understood the opposition will disappear entirely.

A. D. Shaftesbury, a graduate student at Johns Hopkins University, who spent last summer at the Bee Culture Laboratory, has again been appointed and will return June 1 to continue work on the factors causing the aging of bees.

Arrangements have been completed for a study of the colors of honey, in cooperation with the Division of Grades and Standards of the Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates. B. Kurrelmeyer, a graduate student at Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed, effective June 1, to make the measurements of colors. A new type of spectro-photometer will be used in this work. It is also planned to use the honeys examined in other investigations. The pollen content of the honeys will be identified by the Microchemical Laboratory of the Bureau of Chemistry. Samples of honey are now being received for this work from beekeepers in all parts of the country. The purpose of this work is to establish reliable color grades for extracted honey.

George S. Demuth, formerly apicultural assistant, spent a week at the Bee Culture Laboratory recently helping to complete the manuscript on wintering bees which was not finished at the time he resigned to become editor of Gleanings in Bee Culture.

Doctor Howard left Washington on May 14 for the purpose of visiting certain of the western and southern field stations. He started direct for Portland, Oreg., and expected on leaving to visit the stations at Forest Grove and Klamath Falls, Oreg.; Sacramento and

Alhambra, Calif.; Salt Lake City, Utah; Wichita, Kans.; Dallas, San Antonio, and Houston, Tex.; and New Orleans, Mound, and Tallulah, La. This itinerary may be changed by circumstances arising in the course of the journey.

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomologist Acting in Charge

D. L. Van Dine, who has been in charge of the laboratory at Mound, La., for the study of malaria mosquitoes, resigned on May 15 to accept a position on the entomological staff of the Pennsylvania State College. Dr. W. V. King has been placed in charge of the Mound laboratory.

E. R. Barber has been transferred from the branch of Southern Field Crop Insect Investigations to the division of Tropical and Subtropical Fruit Insect Investigations, effective June 1.

John W. Couch, machinist on the force of the boll weevil laboratory at Tallulah, La., has resigned, effective the first of June.

R. H. Van Zwaluwenburg, formerly of the Bureau and now entomologist of the United Sugar Companies of Los Mochis, Sinaloa, Mexico, has gone to Cuba to collect specimens of the tachinid parasite of the sugar-cane moth borer for introduction into Mexico. This parasite has already been introduced into Louisiana by the Bureau. Mr. Van Zwaluwenburg is cooperating with the sugar cane insect laboratory at New Orleans.

Geo. N. Wolcott, entomologist of the Insular Experiment Station of Porto Rico and collaborator of Sugar Cane Insect Investigations of the Bureau, spent a few days during May in Washington.

TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge

J. E. Graf, entomologist in charge, field control, Mexican bean beetle, Birmingham, Ala., is visiting Washington for conference on the Mexican bean beetle and the new potato weevil which has been found in Mississippi.

To date, the new potato weevil has been found in the Counties of Stone and Harrison in southern Mississippi by inspectors of the Mississippi State Plant Board. The name and biology of this insect have not as yet been positively determined. The infested area covers a strip of territory about 14 miles long and 5 miles wide. Practically no scouting has been

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performed outside of this area except to the South, so it is impossible to state just how widely the insect may be distributed. It is planned to carry on additional scouting by both plant board and Bureau men on the appearance of a new generation when the beetles become more abundant. As the insect feeds normally at night and hides in the daytime, it is very difficult to scout for it unless the adults are very common.

Plant deliveries for sweet-potato weevil eradication are progressing favorably in both Florida and Mississippi. Dry weather caused a delay earlier in the season, but at the present time delivery is about up to the schedule in both States.

B. L. Boyden, in charge of sweet-potato weevil eradication in Florida, is transferring his headquarters from Daytona to Tampa, in order to be in closer touch with the eradication experiments being performed on the west coast in Hillsboro and De Soto Counties.

W. H. Merrill, formerly engaged in this work at MacClenny, Fla., is also being transferred to Tampa to assist Mr. Boyden.

W. E. Stone will act in charge of the work at MacClenny, Fla.

William Moore of the Japanese beetle laboratory at Riverton, N. J., spent a week in Birmingham, Ala., going over insecticide tests with N. F. Howard. A large series of new combinations is being tested at the present time, in addition to the standard series of arsenicals which Mr. Howard is now testing, both for insecticide injury and insect control.

E. G. Smyth, special field agent, has arrived in Mexico and has made arrangements with various scientific men for work late in the season. He is planning to leave for the lowlands in the vicinity of Vera Cruz in the hope of finding parasites of the Mexican bean beetle.

In addition to the work at Arlington, Va., and College Park, Md., W. E. White of this office is conducting experiments during the summer at Silver Spring, Md., on the potato flea-beetle, squash-vine borer, cucumber insects, and insects affecting sweet corn.

W. D. Mecum, who was employed during the summer seasons for the past few years as field assistant, Madison, Wis., has been temporarily appointed to assist J. E. Dudley, Jr.

J. M. Reily, employed at College Station, Tex., during the season of 1919-1920, has been temporarily appointed as field assistant to M. M. High at Kingsville, Tex.

H. L. Weatherby, who was employed last season at the Mexican bean beetle research laboratory at Birmingham, Ala., has been temporarily appointed as field assistant to N. F. Howard.

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LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

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Amesbury
Barnstable
Beverly
Boston
Cambridge
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Norfolk
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